GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1507
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Shortage of Fuel
Rao (Avnthi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether shortage of coal and its poor quality has hit power generation in all major thermal power generation units in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Union Government to improve the quality of coal by reducing its ash content and by making it comparable to imported coal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER,
COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): The generation of coal based thermal power plants has not been affected due to shortage or poor quality of coal. The generation from the coal based power plants in the country was 753.9 BU (billion units) as against the programmed generation of 763.9 BU and the loss of generation as reported by power plants due to shortage of coal was only 0.48 BU during April, 2016 to January, 2017.

No plant in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra have reported generation loss in the year 2016-17 (April, 2016 to Jan, 2017).

The details of generation loss due to shortage of coal as reported by power plants in the country during the last three years and the current year is given at Annex.

(c) : The Ministry of Environment & Forests, vide its notification dated 2nd January, 2014, has restricted transportation and usage of coal with ash content of more than 34% beyond 500 km from Pithead. The coal is to be washed to reduce its ash content below 34% for using in the plants located beyond 500 km from pithead.

Further, to address the issue of quality and grade slippage, the Government has directed for Third Party Sampling of coal at both loading and unloading ends.

****